(v) That the bangle industry in Delhi is suffering loss as the traders from different parts of the country prefer to buy their goods from Bombay etc.

(vi) That there are 27 dealers in bangles who pay nearly Rs. 1 lakh per year to the Delhi Administration by way of Sales Tax and due to inadvertence, the dealers may violate Government regulation on Sales Tax and invite the wrath of the Sales Tax Department.

The matter was considered by the Delhi Administration and it was decided that in view of the position prevailing in the neighbouring States Bangles may not be exempted from the levy of Sales Tax.

Sri Lanka's proposal to Hire British Mercenaries

1184. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reports that Sri Lanka is planning to hire British mercenaries for tackling what they call 'Tamil terrorism';

(b) whether Government have ascertained the facts and taken up the matter with British and Sri Lanka Governments; and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of these Governments thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHIM): (a) Government are aware that the Sri Lankan Government are seeking assistance of British security experts for imparting training to the Sri Lankan security forces.

(b) and (c) Government have taken up this matter with the Government of the UK who deny any governmental involvement saying that a private British company may be involved.

Death of Animals in National Parks due to the indiscriminate use of tranquilizer guns

1185. SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that indiscriminate use of tranquillizer guns has led to the death of animals in large numbers in National Parks;

(b) if so, whether Government contemplate to institute a probe into these cases; and

(c) whether staff responsible for capturing wild animals are adequately trained and if so, whether they are required to undergo orientation courses to update their training and knowledge on the subject?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Necessary training has been imparted to selected staff.

Meeting of the heads in the public sector undertakings of the Department of Mines

1186. SHRI BISWA GOSWAMI:
SHRI SUSHIL CHAND MOHUNTA:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently a meeting of the heads of the public sector undertakings of the Department of Mines was held in New Delhi;

(b) if so, what were the subjects discussed at this meeting; and

(c) whether as a result of the discussions any concrete steps are proposed to be taken to increase the production of steel in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI N. K. P. SALVE): (a) and (b)

Yes Sir. A conference of Chief Executives of Public Sector Undertakings and National Organisations of the Department of Mines was held on 17th May, 1984. At the meetings, Chief Executives of the Public Sector Undertakings and National Organisations made a presentation of the review of 1983-84 operations, the Action Plans of their individual enterprises/organisations for 1984-85, and the strategy for the next four years. The presentations, deliberations thereon and the decisions taken have been formulated as a document for reference relating to their production-cum-profitability plans for 1984-85 and subsequent four years. This document also serves as the basis for Monitoring and Review.

(c) No Sir. This Conference did not consider the production of steel, as this item pertains to the Department of Steel.

Brain drain from atomic power projects

1187. SHRI VITHALBHAI PATEL:
SHRI VISHVAJIT PRITHVIJIT SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that brain drain of our engineers and scientists has affected our atomic power units;

(b) if so, how many scientists and engineers have gone abroad;

(c) what steps Government are taking to stop this brain-drain; and

(d) whether there is any danger of vital information being leaked out by this exodus?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE, ELECTRONICS AND OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) There has been resignation of scientific personnel and technical personnel from the PAE. The percentage of these resignation is however not considered job opportunities available to engineers ed job opportunities available to engineers and acientists outside the Government.

(b) Information is being collected.

(c) There has been constant endeavour on the part of Government to improve the service conditions of engineers and scientists in DAE.

(d) No, Sir.

Global tender floated by SAIL for purchase of coking coal

1188. SHRI NAND KISHORE BHATT: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that SAIL had floated a global tender in 1983 for the purchase of three lakhs tonnes of coking coal;

(b) if so, what are the names of the parties who had sent quotations along with their specifications to SAIL;

(c) whether an undue delay has taken place in awarding the tender, if so, what are the reasons therefore;

(d) what are the names of the parties who have been invited for negotiations:

(e) whether it is also a fact that the parties who had sent quotations along with quoted the lowet rates have not been invited for negotiations; and

(f) if so, what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI N. K. P. SALVE): (a) No, Sir. In 1983, SAIL did not issue any global tender for purchase of coking coal.

(b) to (f) In 1982, SAIL floated a global tender for import of 8 lakh tonnes of coking coal for delivery between October 1982 and June 1983 M/s Royal International Corporation, USA, did not quote against this tender; offers were received by SAIL from 48 tenderers.

During 1982, SAIL had also issue a Notice inviting applications for pre-qualification as long-term suppliers of coking coal. In response to this Notice, SAIL received offers from 96 parties. M/s Royal International Corporation submitted an application in November 1982 against this